

REMARKS:

At the time of the Office Action, claims 1, 5-10, 15-16 and 22 were pending and considered by the Examiner. Claims 1 and 5-9 stand allowed, and claims 10, 15, 16 and 22 stand rejected. Pursuant to this Amendment, claims 10 and 22 have been amended. Claims 1, 5-10, 15-16 and 22 remain pending in the subject Application.

Allowance of claims 1 and 5-9 is noted with thanks.

Claim 10 has been amended to address the 112 rejection. Thus, removal of the 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 10, 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Orita (U.S. Patent No. 6,725,984). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

The Examiner is of the opinion that the v-shaped groove limitation is met by Orita because the cylindrical wall and bottom wall meet to form a v-shape. However, claim 10 recites that the v-shaped channel is disposed in the housing and a ring is disposed on the cover, wherein the channel has walls defining the channel, and the ring is rectangular in cross-section and includes edges received against the walls. It is respectfully suggested that Orita fails to disclose this specific structure. Moreover, claim 10 further recites that the cover includes a flange that is slidable into the housing along the cylindrical wall, such that a seal is positioned on a flange of the rotor between the rotor and the flange of the cover. It is respectfully argued that Orita also fails to disclose this specific structure. Thus, Orita fails to anticipate all of the limitations recited in claim 10, and, therefore, also the limitations recited in claims 15 and 16.

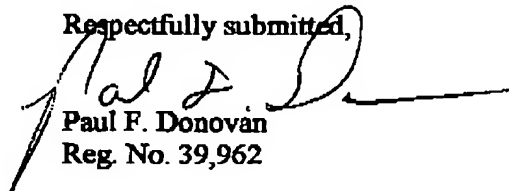
Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mizuno et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,634,033). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

It is respectfully argued that claim 22 as previously presented is not anticipated by Mizuno et al. Even so, without agreeing with the Examiner as to what is or is not taught by Mizuno et al., claim 22 has been amended to more clearly recite that the ribs are integrally formed with the side wall of the housing, and thereby stationary with respect thereto. Claim 22 further recites that the spaces between the ribs and the surfaces of the flange of the rotor decrease or close when the rotor is rotated in one direction and increase or open when the rotor is rotated in an opposite direction. The valve 9, including valve body 91, of Mizuno et al. is configured and adapted to move upon operation of the rotor (see, e.g., Mizuno et al. Figs. 1-5, col. 8, lines 36-39). For at least this additional reason, claim 22 is not anticipated by Mizuno et al., and should be allowable.

No new matter has been added by virtue of the amendments and remarks made herein.

Reconsideration of the rejected claims and allowance of all the pending claims is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any remaining issues that can be addressed and expedited by telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul F. Donovan
Reg. No. 39,962

Illinois Tool Works Inc.
3600 West Lake Avenue
Glenview, Illinois 60025
Telephone (847) 657-4075